Message Text

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ACTION AF-04

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 H-03 SS-07 NSC-06 AID-01 RSC-01 SSO-00

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PR 131200Z JAN 75

FM AMEMBASSY CAPE TOWN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 4309

INFO AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

AMEMBASSY GABORONE

AMEMBASSY MBABANE

AMCONSUL JOHANNESBURG

AMCONSUL DURBAN

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OREP (DIGGS, CHARLES C.)), SF, US

SUBJECT: CODEL DIGGS

REF: (A) STATE 5465; (B) STATE 3525; (C) STATE 5536

1. EMBASSY REQUESTED DFA ARRANGE ADMINISTRATIVE ENTITIES FOR EACH OF CODEL DIGGS PROPOSED TRANSITS PER REFTELS AND HAS BEEN INFORMED ON THE BASIS OF INSTRUCTIONS RECEIVED AT THE MINISTERIAL LEVEL THAT NEITHER REPRESENTATIVE DIGGS NOR MRS. YATES WILL BE ALLOWED TO ENTER SA TO USE THE FACILITIES OF THE HOLIDAY INN BUT WILL HAVE TO REMAIN WITHIN THE INTERNATIONAL TRANSIT AREA OF JAN SMUTS AIRPORT WHICH DFA SAYS HAS ACCOMMODATIONS AND RESTAURANT FACILITIES EQUIVALENT TO THOSE OF FIRST RATE HOTEL. EMBASSY OFFICIALS WOULD BE GRANTED PASSES TO ENTER THE TRANSIT AREA, IF REQUESTED, BUT NO SOUTH AFRICAN VISITORS WOULD BE PERMITTED IN THE AREA TO SEE MR. DIGGS AND HE WOULD NOT BE PERMITTED TO HOLD A PRESS CONFERENCE.

2. ALTHOUGH EMBASSY HAD PREVIOUSLY TRIED PUT RECORD STRAIGHT REGARDING 1973 PRESS CONFERENCE AND THIS TIME PROVIDED COPY OF USINFOR SUMMARY (PRETORIA 4384 OF DEC 73) TO SHOW MODERATION LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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OF STATEMENT MADE AT THAT TIME, DFA INSISTENTLY CONTINUES

REGARD THAT CONFERENCE AS UNAUTHORIZED. REFERENCE WAS ALSO MADE TO FACT THAT DURING HIS FIRST VISIT, MR. DIGGS ELECTED TO CANCEL MINISTERIAL APPOINTMENTS ON GROUND OF SHORTNESS OF TIME, THEN FOUND TIME TO EXTEND HIS STAY IN S.A. DFA GIVES US IMPRESSION THAT IT WAS MAINLY THE EVENTS OF ORIGINAL VISTI, AND POSSIBLY MR. DIGGS' REFUSAL MEET WITH SAG MINISTERS, THAT HAVE LED CABINET TO REGARD MR. DIGGS AS PERSONALLY PNG TO SAG.

- 3. GIVEN THE SAG'S RIGID ATTITUDE TOWARD MR. DIGGS, IT IS CLEAR THEY WILL NOT ACCOMMODATE HIS WISHES TO TRANSIT S.A. EXCEPT VIA THE VERY RESTRICTED AIRPORT TRANSIT AREA. IN CIRCUMSTANCES, CODEL MAY WISH REVISE ITS ITINERARY TO OBVIATE SOME OF THE FIVE TRANSITS PRESENTLY PLANNED. ASSUME DEPT WILL KEEP US INFORMED.
- 4. EMBASSY NOTES THAT REPRESENTATIVE COLLINS, WHO PLANS TO ACCOMPANY CODEL DIGGS, HAS UNRESTRICTED VISA, AS DOES MR. BATES WHO PLANS TO JOIN CODEL FOR JAN 24-25 TRANSIT. WILL THESE PERSONS REQUIRE ANY SEPARATE PROGRAM WITHIN S.A. (ASIDE FROM MR. BATES' EARLIER VISIT)? DEPT SHOULD NOTE THAT VISITS COME AS SAG IS MOVING MINISTERIAL OFFICERS TO CAPE TOWN FOR 1975 SESSION OF PARLIAMENT (DFA SECRETARY AND MOST SENIOR STAFF WILL MOVE TO CAPE TOWN JAN 20) AND THAT AMB, DCM AND POLITICAL SECSTION ARE NOW IN CAPE TOWN. IF MR. DIGGS REQUIRES ANY SPECIAL BRIEFING DURING HIS TRANSIT, THEREFORE, WE WOULD SUGGEST THIS BE UNDERTAKEN BY THE ECONOMIC COUNSELOR FROM PRETORIA AND CONSUL GENERAL FROM JOHANNESBURG. HURD

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Message Attributes

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